

Responding to Sex Trafficking in Arizona

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Presented at the Governor's Task Force on Human Trafficking



ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Center for Violence Prevention and Community Safety

Ready, Fire, Aim...



Center for Violence Prevention and Community Safety



Prior examples of legislative analysis

- **Shared Hope legislative analysis & recommendations**
 - Largely focused on “minors”
 - Filling the legislative gaps related to criminalization, demand, penalties, etc.
- **Roe-Sepowitz, Hickie, & Gallagher proposal**
 - Focus on “minors,” prostitute victim needs, public health, DNA
- **Polaris Project report card**
 - “Based on 10 categories of laws that are critical to a basic legal framework that combats human trafficking, punishes traffickers and supports survivors.”
 - Highly publicized
 - Promotes the basics

Sex Trafficking as an Industry

- **Street prostitution**
- **Strip clubs**
- **Massage parlors**
- **Escort services**
- **Online services**
- **Residential brothels**

Focused-based interventions are superior to broad-based interventions



Background & methods

Background

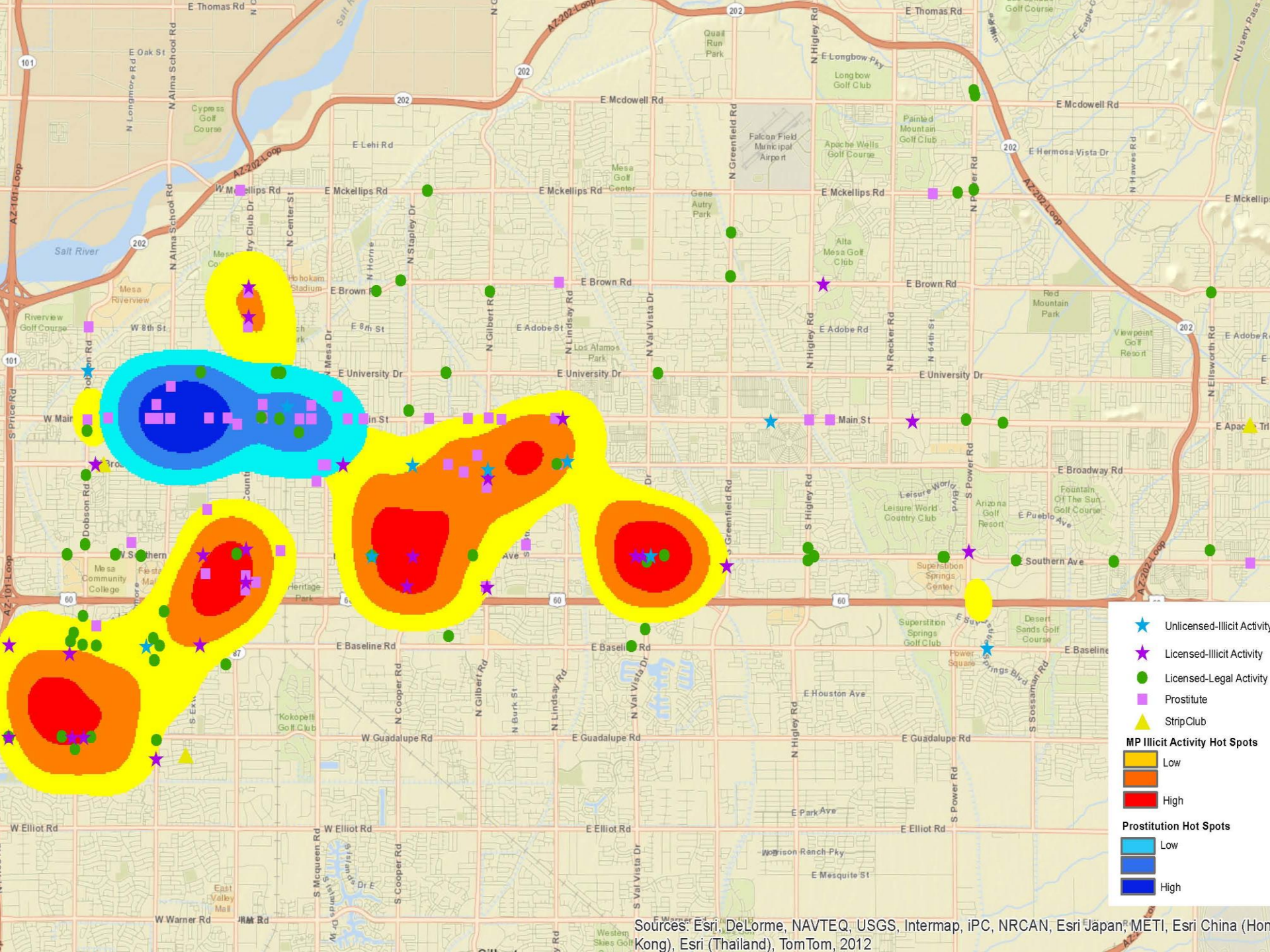
- Chief understood that Mesa may have a substantial issue with illicit massage activity.
- Requested a study of the scope and nature of the problem in Mesa.

Methods

- Two largest on-line user review sites
 - Erotic MP
 - Rub maps
- Mesa RMS data
- Business license data
- Phone survey data

Massage Parlor Industry in Mesa, Arizona

- **112 massage parlors**
 - 42 (37.5%) offer sexual services
 - 32 licensed
 - 10 unlicensed



Sources: Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, USGS, Intermap, iPC, NRCAN, Esri Japan® METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom, 2012

Operational characteristics

- **93% in store front/strip mall**
- **90% take credit cards**
- **Open on average from 9:30am to 10pm**
- **Amenities**
 - 60% table shower
 - 6% Sauna
 - 4% Jacuzzi

Visit by time of day and day of week

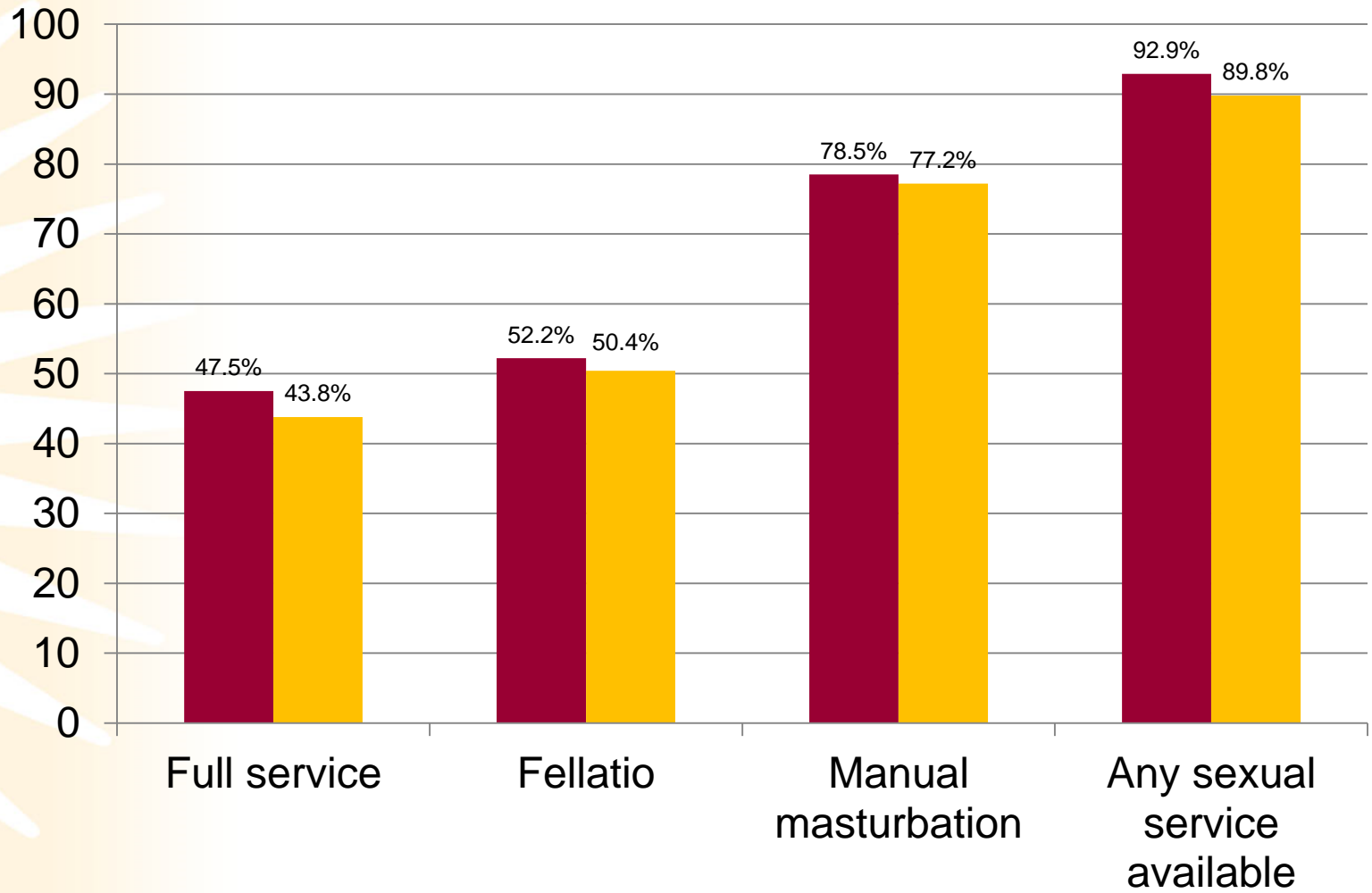
Time of day (%)	
Morning	16.2
Noon	28.5
Afternoon	35.6
Evening	9.5
Night	6.7
Late night	3.5
n=284	

Day of Week (%)	
Sunday	11.9
Monday	16.0
Tuesday	18.5
Wednesday	14.8
Thursday	19.8
Friday	9.9
Saturday	9.9
n=243	

Characteristics of providers

- # of service providers
 - 169 low estimate
 - 252 high estimate
- 100% female
- Ethnicity
 - 84% Asian
 - 3% Hispanic
- Median Age
 - est. low, 30 yrs. old
 - est. high, 35 yrs. old
- Queried if client was police
 - 2.6%

Services reported as available & engaged in



Cost of service (median)

	30 minutes	60 minutes
House	\$40	\$60
Tip	\$60	\$100
Total cost	\$100	\$160

Recommendations

■ Increase awareness statutorily

- Establish permanent task force on HT
- Post human trafficking hotline
- Conduct Biennial survey of law enforcement and prosecutors
 - Arizona Criminal Justice Commission (ACJC)
- Mandate law enforcement agencies to collect and publish sex trafficking crime statistics

■ Require training that is industry based and profession specific * online, self-paced

- Police & prosecutors
- Landlords & hotel staff
- Establishment managers
- Performers, massage therapists, etc.

Recommendations (cont.)

■ **Place based legislation**

- Establish notification procedures for landlords/property owners.
- Enable criminal and civil suites against landlords/property owners.
- Zoning

■ **Person based legislation**

- Broaden anti-racketeering law to include sex trafficking (i.e., owners of establishments)
- Increase manager/owner accountability
- Asset forfeiture

Recommendations (cont.)

- **Prevent advertising**
 - Regulate commercial speech through record keeping
 - But this can be tricky, Washington State SB 6251
- **Legislatively broaden investigative authority of public health officials**
- **Victim centric legislation**
 - Vacate convictions
 - Victim assistance

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